

Minutes from a meeting of Crophorne Parish Council held on Monday 4th 2022 7pm in the Village Hall

1. PRESENT:

Chairman B Annis Cllr J King Cllr S Smythe Cllr C Hall Cllr W Clive County Cllr E Eyre
District Cllr T Rowley B Bingle – WDC Ticket to Ride
Richard Timney – New Clerk as an Observer

2. APOLOGIES – were received from Cllr R Segar

PRESENTATION BY BRANWEN BINGLE (WDC) – TICKET TO RIDE an introduction by BB on a new initiative offering support to community transport schemes, which can include match funding (up to £50k), guidance and advice. There is a new volunteer project in Fladbury which is being supported financially by Fladbury parish council, and it was considered that this may have potential to expand, taking in Crophorne and Charlton. Other schemes (throughout the country) which are proving successful include 'car sharing' and 'Norton Connector', although there are a wide range of other options worth considering. The Ticket 2 Ride initiative offers help and support with schemes as well as financial assistance. The parish council were in full agreement that this should be investigated further, and Cllr Hall advised he would be interested in getting involved in this.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – Cllr King – Village Hall

4. MINUTES from Meeting 9th May 2022 were approved, proposed Cllr Clive, seconded Cllr Hall – all in favour.

OPEN FORUM / PUBLIC QUESTION TIME – There were no parishioners in attendance

5. PLANNING:

- Traveller Sites – *agreement that there is still a need to formally establish and identify layout of sites and pitch allocation – to liaise with Wychavon District Council*
- 22/01161 Walkmill, Main Road – demolition of side extension and garage, and construction of 2-storey side extension, porch and new access – discussion took place and whilst there were no objections to the proposed extension concerns were raised with regard the new access and access onto the B4084. It was agreed that the parish council would make comment to this effect on the WDC website.

6. HIGHWAY MATTERS: (TO INCLUDE FLOODING): Nothing to report

7. COUNTY & DISTRICT CLLRS REPORTS:

- County Cllr's report is annexed to these minutes
- District Cllr's Report – Cllr Rowley reported that:
 - Final document is expected to be submitted for Examination in Public early 2023
 - Minerals Plan – whilst no changes are expected to the document, it cannot be ruled out that the Development Plan Document may identify other sites / locations.
- Planning - there are no planning applications for concern
- Electoral Boundary Review – a further consultation is to be carried out with Fladbury Ward possibly losing Wick but gaining both Little and Great Comberton

8. PROGRESS REPORTS / UPDATES

- (a) Lengthsman – New LM continues to work well throughout the village.
- (b) Community Infrastructure Levy Fund – Several traffic calming measures including a flashing sign near the school have been ordered and will be funded by the CIL fund available
- (c) Speeding / Traffic:
 - Community Speed Watch - The clerk continues to chase this with the CSW scheme

9. FINANCE:

- a) Payments for approval / made since the last meeting:

Insurance	209.84
Timber - Flower Box	71.87
website Hosting	144.00
Clerks PAYE	217.40
Lengthsman May	168.00
Clerks Salary	337.80
Clerks Expenses	16.22
Corran Dean Play Equipment	18938.69
Clerks Salary	337.80
Clerks Expenses	16.22
Donation	900.00

Accounts had been circulated to Cllrs for approval – *Approval of accounts and payments, proposed Cllr King, seconded Cllr Smythe – all in favour*

- b) Code of Conduct – an amended and updated Code of Conduct had been sent out to town and parish councils by WDC, with a view to consideration, approval and adoption – this had been sent out to Cllrs and all were in full support to adopt.

10. VILLAGE HALL:

- **Queen’s Jubilee Celebrations:** The event was very successful despite the weather. Medals for the children (purchased by the parish council) were distributed.
- **Dog Fouling** – the village hall committee had discussed the issue of dog fouling again at length and considered that there was enough signage around the Sheppey

11. CLERK’S VACANCY – Cllr Annis reported that a new clerk had been appointed and that a handover with the outgoing clerk to take place during August. All Cllrs had been consulted on the application, interview and appointment and were in full agreement of the decision made

12. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS / FUTURE DISCUSSION:

- Cllr Segar referred to the new notice board at the Sheppey, use and cost to be shared between the VH and the Parish Council. The parish council have no objection but would request a formal quotation / pro forma invoice which would be shared with Cllrs prior to release of any funds

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Monday 5th September 2022 at the Village Hall at 7.00pm

County Issues

Funding for community projects WORCESTERSHIRE County Council hosted 28th June, ahead of Crowdfund Worcestershire launching its largest round of funding for potential project creators and funders. The County Council, along with Malvern Hills and Wychavon district councils, has partnered with crowdfunding platform Spacehive to create Crowdfund Worcestershire which gives organisations who have ideas to improve their community, the opportunity to gain much-needed funding. So far, Worcestershire County Council has backed 24 successful projects on Spacehive with £97,000. These community groups raised an additional £258,000 from thousands of backers across the county. The County Council has allocated a dedicated fund of £92,000 to encourage local groups to put forward their ideas, with pledges of up to £10,000 available per project. **The deadline to submit an idea for the next round of funding is 28 September.**

Anyone is welcome to crowdfund on Spacehive, but to pitch for additional funding from the county council, projects should fit one or more of the following themes:

Food and fuel poverty
Social isolation and befriending
Supporting people into employment
Community capacity building e.g. recruiting volunteers, start-up costs for groups, pilot activities etc
Healthy Communities – activities to improve the health and wellbeing of the local community

Commonwealth Games 22nd July 2022 In the build-up to Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games, the Queens Baton Relay (QBR), like the Olympic Torch Relay, will be passing through Wychavon on Friday 22nd July. It will pass through both Broadway and Pershore, on Friday 22nd July. This will include:

- Baton Relay through Broadway High Street (WR12 7AA)
- Community celebration event at Broadway Tower (WR12 7LB)
- Another Baton Relay through Pershore Town Centre (WR10 1DS)

For both the Broadway and Pershore relays, where Baton bearers carry the Baton on foot, WCC will require road closures on the day. The road closures will be organised and staffed by a traffic management company (Beaumont) on the day.

Pershore Town Centre – Baton Relay from 14:31 to 14:41

4 Baton bearers will take turns carrying the Queens Baton from 82 Bridge Street to the Cherry Orchard Junction on the High Street. WCC will also be providing face painting and hopefully some other entertainment in Chapman Court (nr Asda).

- Roads Closed 14:24 – 14:41*
- Entertainment from 11:00 until 16:00

*Pedestrian and blue light emergency services access will be maintained at all times. WCC estimate the attendance in Pershore Town Centre 1,000 to 2,500

Stewards: Wychavon employees will help steward the event. This is in addition to staff/volunteers provided by Pershore Town Council, Broadway Parish Council and Broadway Tower. **There will be no parking/waiting restrictions in place in Pershore and possibly Broadway. To help enforce this, we are looking to have traffic wardens stationed in each area.**

Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) - The County's recent ambitious bid to the UK Government for an £86m investment into the network in Worcestershire was not funded others were funded to the tune of £87.9m but Worcestershire's plan was awarded £0. Our network urgently requires such investment. Diamond Buses, First Bus and Johnsons etc all are finding it challenging running bus services. The situation is bleak, and with funding to offset the impact of COVID-19 coming to an end the network is at risk of reverting to a reliance on the commercial viability of routes to ensure their survival unless alternative funding can be located.

The Department for Transport made it clear they want to see Enhanced Partnerships (EP) as defined in the Bus Services Act 2017 as a key feature within how bus services are managed across England. Outside of London and other metropolitan mayoral authorities, franchising remains an option and that has led to the vibrant Transport for West Midlands brand which benefits from significantly higher demand for bus travel with over 248m passengers in the 2019/20 period. COVID-19 may have abated but it still impacts passenger confidence to travel on buses remains, with just 50% of concessionary pass holders using the buses compared to pre-pandemic levels. The County Council continues to fully review the network and report again to the Department for Transport by 1 July, work with current operators, explore the result of the Bromsgrove Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) trial to ascertain if this is a viable model for rolling out across Worcestershire, and establish an Enhanced Partnership with our operators but the tools at the County Council's disposal are limited as demand is either low or not in a form to fit how bus services traditionally work. I have asked to sit on a **Bus Travel Task Force for Worcestershire** which will travel around the county, hosted by each constituency Member of Parliament or a substitute, to work closely with all the key partners to hear about the

challenges and opportunities and to help us to forge new solutions and ideas for both my division and further afield. Again, I am committed to doing all I can to try and find new solutions for my division.

A46 - A six-mile stretch of the road between Evesham and Beckford has seen nine deaths and almost 50 accidents in the last five years. Local villages and I have lobbied National Highways for the section from Hinton Cross to the Teddington roundabout, to be improved e.g. the addition of speed indicator signs, and improved lining. In addition, on June 14 a 20-year vision to “future-proof” the busy A46, cut congestion and reduce the number of serious accidents, was revealed by the Government transport body Midlands Connect. Congestion in Evesham has previously been highlighted by Midland Connect as a major issue that was having a “detrimental impact” on the town and acting as a “hindrance to growth.” Improvements will be made to ease congestion around the A46/B4035 roundabout in Evesham as part of a multi-million-pound bid in ‘levelling up’ money to the government by Wychavon District Council. Midlands Connect said the improvements to the 155-mile route between Gloucestershire and Lincolnshire would boost the economy by more than £7 billion over the next 60 years. As many as 600,000 new residents, 150,000 new jobs and 250,000 new homes are expected along the route by 2041.

The new bridge linking Hampton to Evesham town centre project, to boost walking and cycling, is moving forward. The planning application to build the new bridge over the River Avon has been submitted and papers are now published on the council's planning web page.

Local Issues

21/00999/CU – Evergreen Bank, Main Road – refused, no appeal yet.

Community Speed watch- Safer Neighbourhood team to liaise with Parish Clerk.

Holland House two REDUCE SPEED signs before the parking either way - KH reviewed and feels this isn't something WCC thinks is needed. There is no accident history associated with this parking and it does act as a natural traffic calming feature. And school speed signs are to be added but KH still awaiting a meeting with the supplier. They are struggling to keep up with demand at the moment and I know there have been parts issues as I ordered something similar for Hanbury in Feb and still not done! Cill Money from Cropthorne Council will pay for it when possible. Getting a cost for Kieran Hemstock.

Field Barn Lane Passing Bays A request had been made for them to be put on the WCC 'list' for action: tidying up and making larger if possible, adding a passing bay if possible. Informed in July that advisories had been raised, they had been **surveyed for work but not scheduled**.

Hampton to Pershore Cycleway – **land purchase** an initial approach is being made to landowners along Porters Path. (Public Rights of Way FB-522/521), as part of the early feasibility study that Worcestershire County Council are undertaking, to provide an Active Travel Corridor linking Pershore to Evesham. The alignment of the route takes in Porters Path, Public Rights of Way FB-522/521 includes widening the existing PROW, surfacing the existing path to make it usable throughout the year, upgrading the status of footpaths FB-521 and FB-522 to a bridleway so that people can legally cycle along Porters Path, all to create a cohesive network of mostly off-road walking and cycling routes to encourage more people to participate in a healthier and more active lifestyle leading to improved physical and mental health and reduce CO₂ emissions by reducing the need to travel by car. **The wider £2m Evesham off-road leisure, recreation, and competition cycleway plans** are independent of this scheme, and Evesham monies will not come from monies for the Hampton to Pershore route.

Minerals Local Plan: Emerging minerals Local Plan – latest information full Council in July 14th – I will inform if this is not the case when papers are published.

Footway, B4084 to Hampton - siding out Hampton to Cropthorne – in part has been done. Accident pedestrian walking this route

Neigh Lane – Pedestrians in Road - Enquiry 475 now 1072 - time scale for this would be Late Spring/ Early Summer

Additional pedestrians in road warning signs to cover the section between Jubilee bridge and the 30 terminal point.

1. Slow on road near the existing sign going towards Fladbury
2. Second slow on road going towards Fladbury around the bend
3. Up the hill to Cropthorne second parent and child sign

The extra SLOW markings and the parent-child sign are on order.

An extra Pedestrians in the road sign Neigh Lane near Jubilee bridge
Up and down the hill - no footway notices

1 to 3 are on order.

WCC has also ordered a pair of road warning signs at the bottom of the lane for traffic which has just turned off the Fladbury Rd by Jubilee bridge.

Pinch point Mainstreet near Blacksmith Enquiry 476/1071: Edge of carriageway markings to accentuate, road narrow and slow markings.

Highways : urgent utility repairs being carried out on Main Road Outside Little Orchard Crophorne. There are multi way signals – they only last 1 day